

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst applied in the form of a coating to an inert honeycomb made of ceramic or metal comprising: a support material, and a noble metal comprising platinum as an oxidation-active component on a first portion of the support material, the first portion of the support material comprising a homogeneous magnesium-aluminium mixed oxide having a magnesium oxide content of from 1 to 40% by weight, based on the total weight of the Mg-Al mixed oxide of the first portion of the support material; and at least one nitrogen oxide storage component on a second portion of the support material, the second portion of the support material comprising Mg-Al mixed oxide doped with rare earth oxides and containing from 1 to 30% by weight of magnesium oxide, based on the total weight of the magnesium-aluminium mixed oxide of the second portion of the support material, wherein: (i) ~~the first support material is separate from the second support material~~; (ii) the first portion of the support material contains the noble metal; and ~~(iii)~~ (ii) the second portion of the support material does not contain any noble metal.
2. (previously presented): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, characterized in that the nitrogen oxide storage component supported on magnesium-aluminium mixed oxide is based on oxides, carbonates or hydroxides of barium and/or strontium.
3. (previously presented): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, characterized in that the rare earth oxides comprise oxides of elements selected from the group consisting of cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium and mixtures thereof.
4. (previously presented): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 3, characterized in that the rare earth oxides are cerium oxide and/or praseodymium

oxide.

5. (currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, characterized in that the homogeneous Mg-Al mixed oxide of the nitrogen oxide storage component contains from 5 to 15% by weight of rare earth oxides, based on the total weight of the second portion of the support material.

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, characterized in that ~~[[it]]~~ the first portion of the support material additionally contains palladium.

9. (currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, characterized in that the support material further comprises a third portion that it ~~additionally~~ contains rhodium on aluminium oxide.

10. (currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 8, characterized in that the support material further comprises a third portion that it ~~additionally~~ contains rhodium on aluminium oxide.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (previously presented): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 15, characterized in that the catalyst contains from 5 to 10% by weight of nitrogen oxide storage components, calculated as oxide and based on the total weight of the catalyst.

14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to claim 1 characterized in that the catalyst contains 3 to 25% by weight of nitrogen oxide storage components calculated as oxide and based on the total weight of the catalyst.

16. (Currently amended): Nitrogen oxide storage catalyst according to Claim 1, wherein the first portion of the support material comprises cerium oxide and the second portion of the support material comprises cerium oxide and barium oxide.